

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-10 and 21

1-10 (Cancelled)

11. (Original) A screwdriver for a polyaxial screw having a head portion movably mounted to a shaft portion, the screwdriver comprising:

a body assembly defining an axially extending inner passageway and including a plurality of retractable tabs for selectively engaging recesses on the polyaxial screw and a tip defining a plurality of alignment protrusions for mating with a rod-receiving opening on the polyaxial screw to align the screwdriver with the polyaxial screw;

an inner shaft for applying distraction between the head portion and the shaft portion to rigidify the screw, the inner shaft being movably disposed within the passageway;

a threaded rotatable collar surrounding the body assembly and having a threaded inner surface; and

a coupling pin extending from the inner shaft and interfering with the threaded inner surface of the collar to couple the inner shaft to the threaded collar.

12. (Original) The screwdriver of claim 11, further comprising an axially extending slot in the body assembly through which the pin extends.

13. (Original) The screwdriver of claim 11, further comprising a handle surrounding and fixed to the rotatable collar.

14. (Original) The screwdriver of claim 11, further comprising a spring for biasing the inner shaft to a first position within the inner passageway.

15-21. (Cancelled)